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FURMAN  
WILDMAN

# TRANSFORMERS

## FORMERS

### THE WAR WITHIN





# TRANSFORMERS

## THE WAR WITHIN

THE DARK AGES

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PREVIOUSLY IN

**TRANSFORMERS: THE WAR WITHIN...**

With **OPTIMUS PRIME** and **MEGATRON** missing, presumed dead, the civil war on **CYBERTRON** degenerates into a series of frantic border conflict, with multiple factions bidding to consolidate or expand their home territory. Into this melting pot comes **The Fallen**, an ancient member of the **TRANSFORMERS** with dark designs on the planet. He recruits **BLUDGEON**, **MINDWIPE** and **BUGLY**, his plan to isolate and capture key individuals such as **GRIMLOCK**. At the very heart of **CYBERTRON**, **The Fallen** prepares...

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CYBERTRON, WITHIN:

I AM  
SATISFIED.



THE WELL OF  
ALL SPARKS:

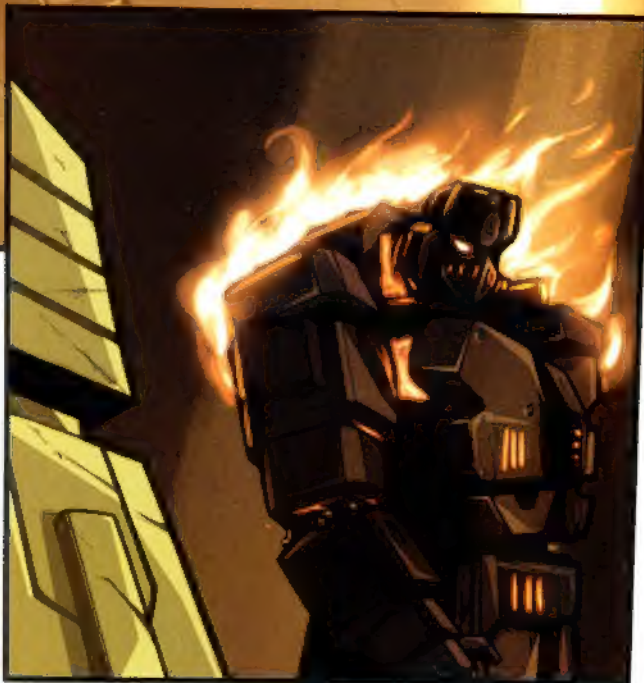
PREPARATIONS  
FOR THE UNBINDING  
ARE SUITABLY  
ADVANCED.

YOU HAVE  
PERFORMED  
YOUR DUTIES  
ADMIRABLY.

WELL GEE,  
THANKS.

NOT THAT WE DON'T  
APPRECIATE ALL THIS  
GUSHING PRAISE, BUT,  
Y'KNOW, WE'D PREFER  
SOME MORE *TANGIBLE*  
REWARD.

LIKE THIS *DARK*  
POWER YOU KEEP  
PROMISING.







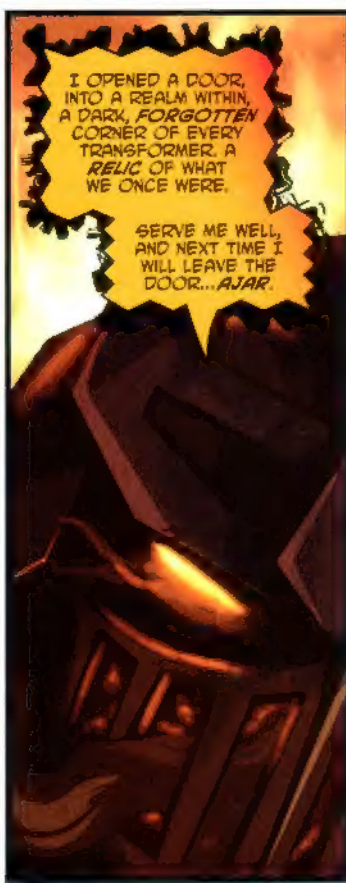




HHWW...

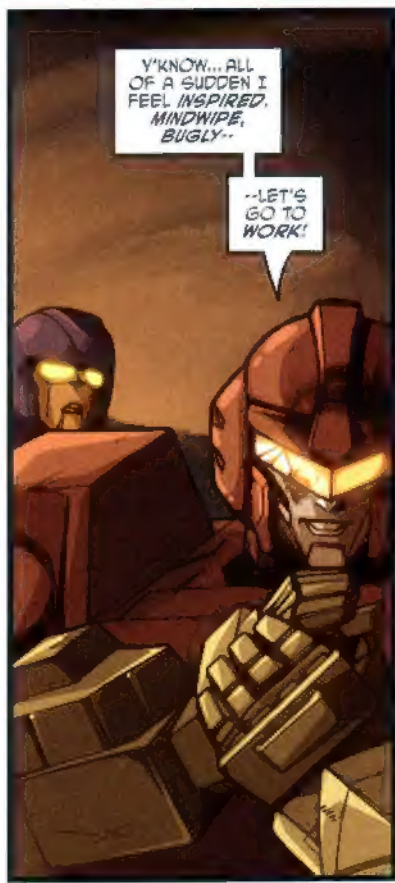
WH-WHAT...

...DID YOU  
DO TO ME?



I OPENED A DOOR,  
INTO A REALM WITHIN,  
A DARK, *FORGOTTEN*  
CORNER OF EVERY  
TRANSFORMER. A  
*RELIC* OF WHAT  
WE ONCE WERE.

SERVE ME WELL,  
AND NEXT TIME I  
WILL LEAVE THE  
DOOR... *AJAR*.



Y'KNOW... ALL  
OF A SUDDEN I  
FEEL *INSPIRED*.  
*MINDWIPE,*  
*BUGLY--*

--LET'S  
GO TO  
WORK!





HE'S HERE.

INDUSTRIAL QUADRANT EAST,  
THE TAGAN HEIGHTS:

WHOEVER  
CONTROLS THE HEIGHTS  
CONTROLS OVER FORTY  
PERCENT OF CYBERTRON'S  
MANUFACTURING  
POTENTIAL.

IF THAT GETS TURNED  
TO FULL SCALE WEAPONS  
PRODUCTION, IT'LL TIP THE  
BALANCE OF POWER  
CATASTROPHICALLY.

YOU SURE,  
SPRINGER?

HE'S HERE  
ALRIGHT!



TRICK IS, TO  
FIND HIM... BEFORE  
HE FINDS US.

TOPSPIN, TWIN TWIST,  
WHIRL, ROADBUSTER,  
BROADSIDE-FAN OUT,  
SEARCH PATTERN THETA.  
SANDSTORM, YOU'RE  
WITH ME.





SO FAR, WE'VE MANAGED  
TO CONTAIN HIM AND HIS  
*ULTRACONS*, KEEP THEM  
PUSHED BACK INSIDE  
*POLYHEX'S* BORDERS.  
BUT SOMETHING TELLS ME...



... HE'S READY  
TO PUSH *BACK*!

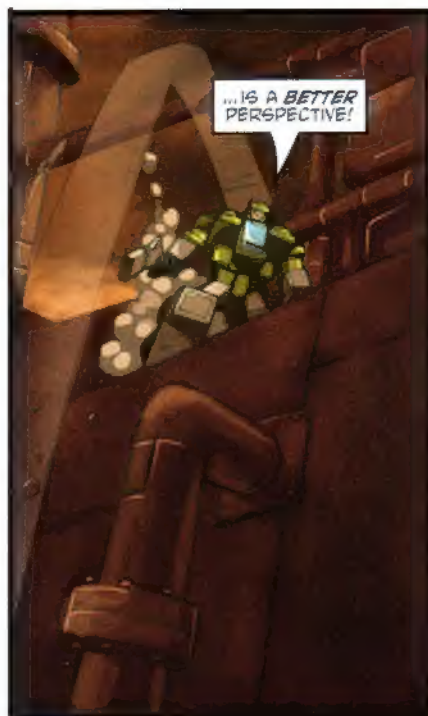


EVEN IF YOU'RE RIGHT, IF  
SOMEHOW HE GOT *PAST*  
OUR BORDER PATROLS, WE  
COULD SEARCH FOR *DAYS*  
AND FIND NO TRACE.

MAYBE  
YOU'RE RIGHT.

MAYBE  
WHAT WE  
*NEED*...





-UH-  
-NTT...








... AND IT  
IS BIG!

DEVASTATOR!





DEVASTATOR



IACON, THE FORMER  
HIGH COUNCIL PAVILIONS

THAT'S  
WHAT WE HEARD,  
HOTSPOT

THIS CHANGES  
*EVERYTHING*.  
YOU'RE SURE?

HEY, SOMEONE TOLD  
SOMEONE WHO TOLD  
SOMEONE ELSE YOU  
KNOW HOW IT GOES

REAL  
QUESTION  
S...

...CAN WE  
AFFORD *NOT*  
TO BELIEVE TO?



NO

IF THE  
*CONSTRUCTICONS*  
HAVE PICKED A SIDE,  
WE HAVE TO *ACT*



RIGHT NOW, WE  
**COMBINERS** HAVE A  
DEGREE OF AUTONOMY  
WE'RE NO LONGER PART  
OF A RESPONSE TO  
SOME ESCALATING  
ARMS RACE

WHETHER SIGNED UP  
AS INDIVIDUALS, LIKE  
**MOTORMASTER**, OR  
UNALLIED AS A GROUP  
WE'RE JUST US

IF THE  
ULTRACONS HAVE  
DEVASTATOR, HOW  
LONG BEFORE THE  
PREDACONS WANT  
**BRUTICUS**, THE  
DECEPTICONS  
**MENASOR**?

AND THEN? **SURELY** THE  
LIGHTNING STRIKE COALITION  
WILL WANT **SUPERION**, THE  
AUTOBOT'S DEFENSOR

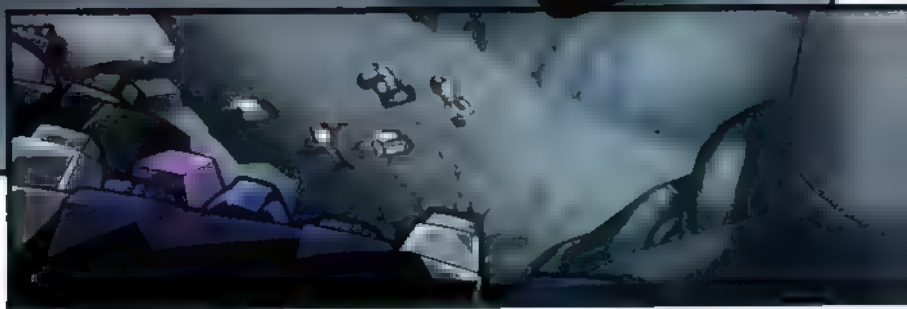


AND WE'LL BE  
RIGHT **BACK** WHERE  
WE STARTED

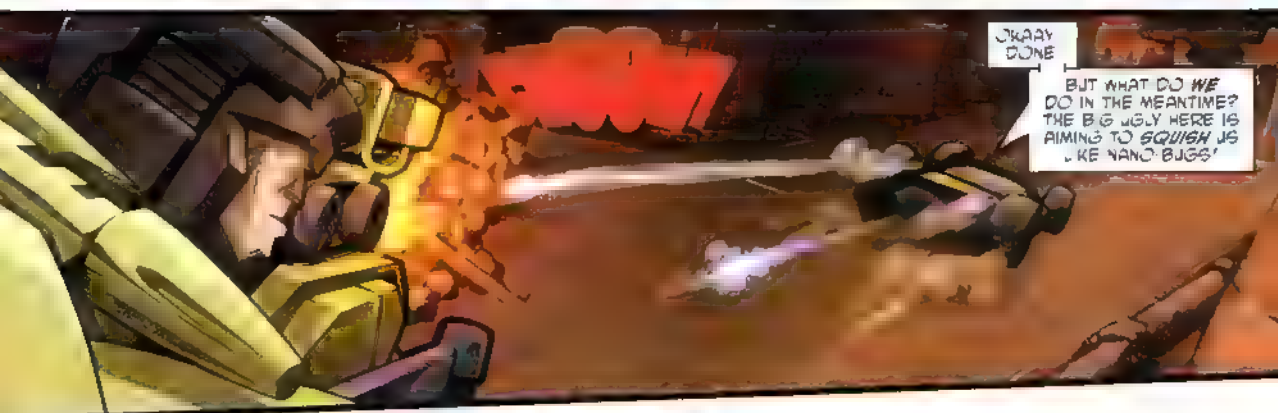
UNLESS.

WE STOP THIS  
HERE, NOW **BLADES**,  
**FIRST AID**, **GROOVE**,  
**STREETSIDE**

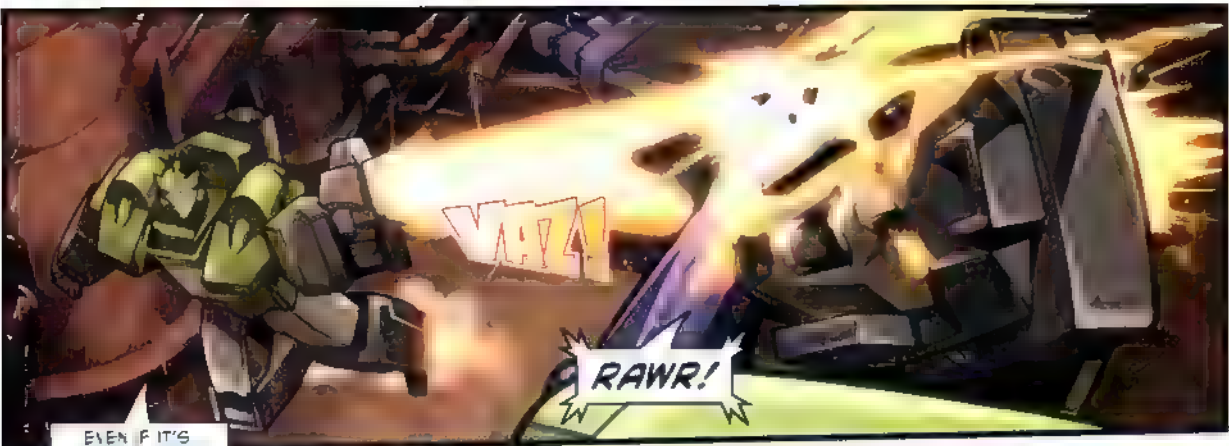
ROLL OUT!



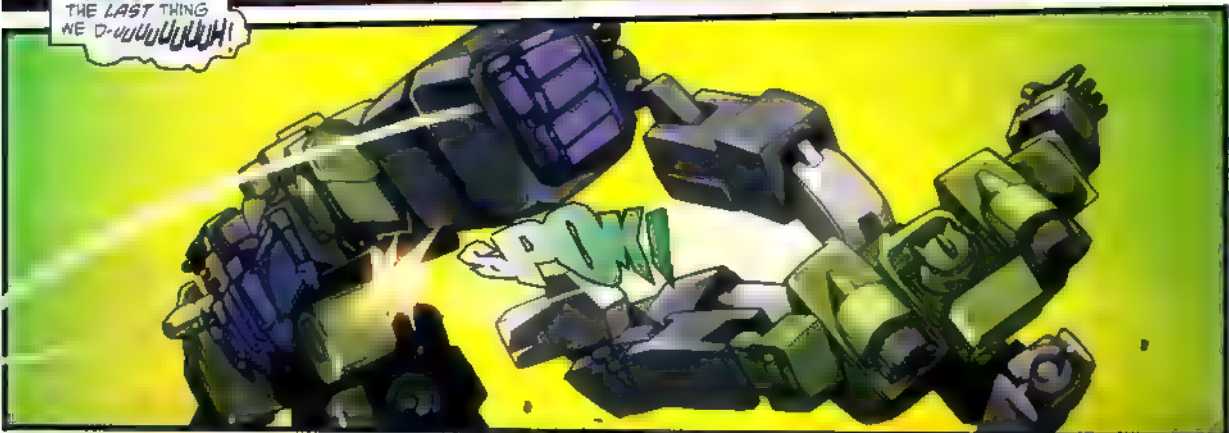








EVEN IF IT'S  
THE LAST THING  
WE D-UUUUUUH!





M HUR BOJING  
BOT LEARN TO FLY  
TEACH YOU TOO

YOU REALLY *WERE* FIRST  
OFF THE PRODUCTION  
LINE, WEREN'T YOU? 'S X  
OF THE SHARPEST M NDS  
ON CYBERTRON *MUSHED*  
INTO 'DEVASTATOR SMASH

HEY

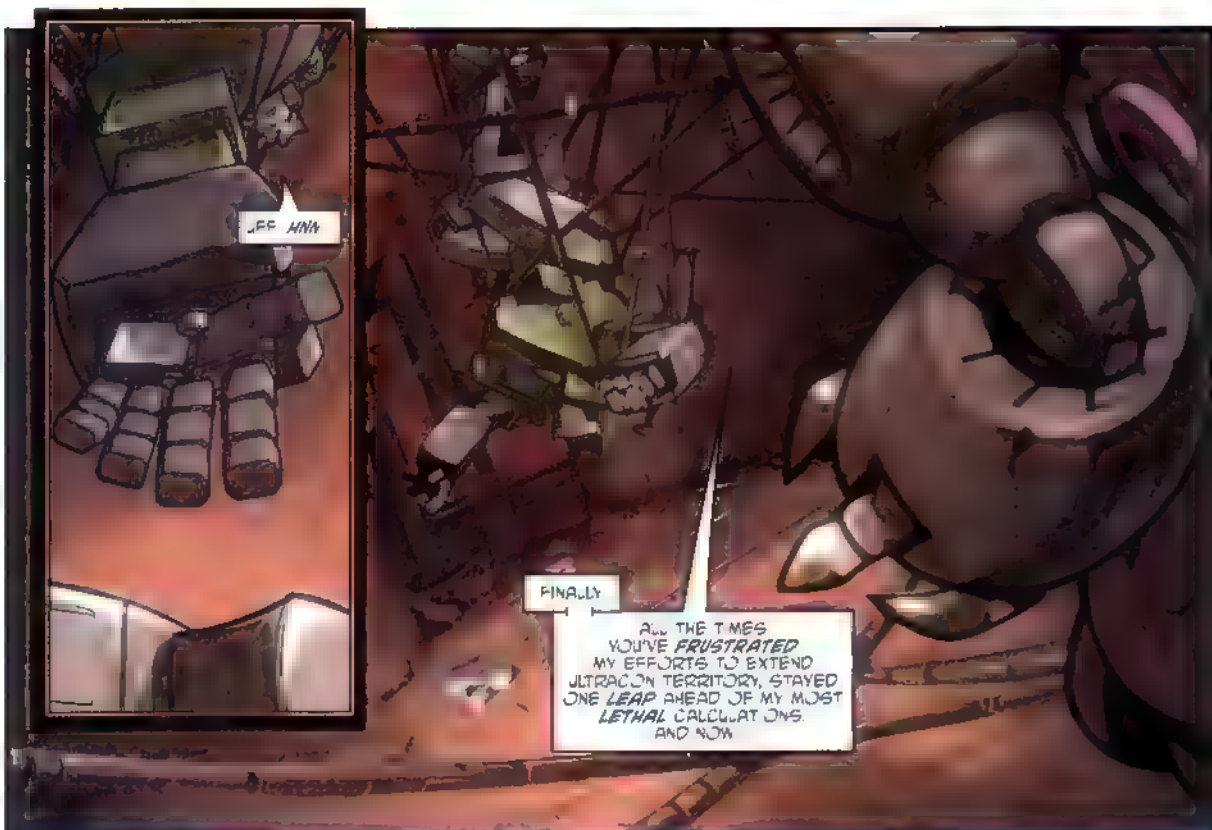
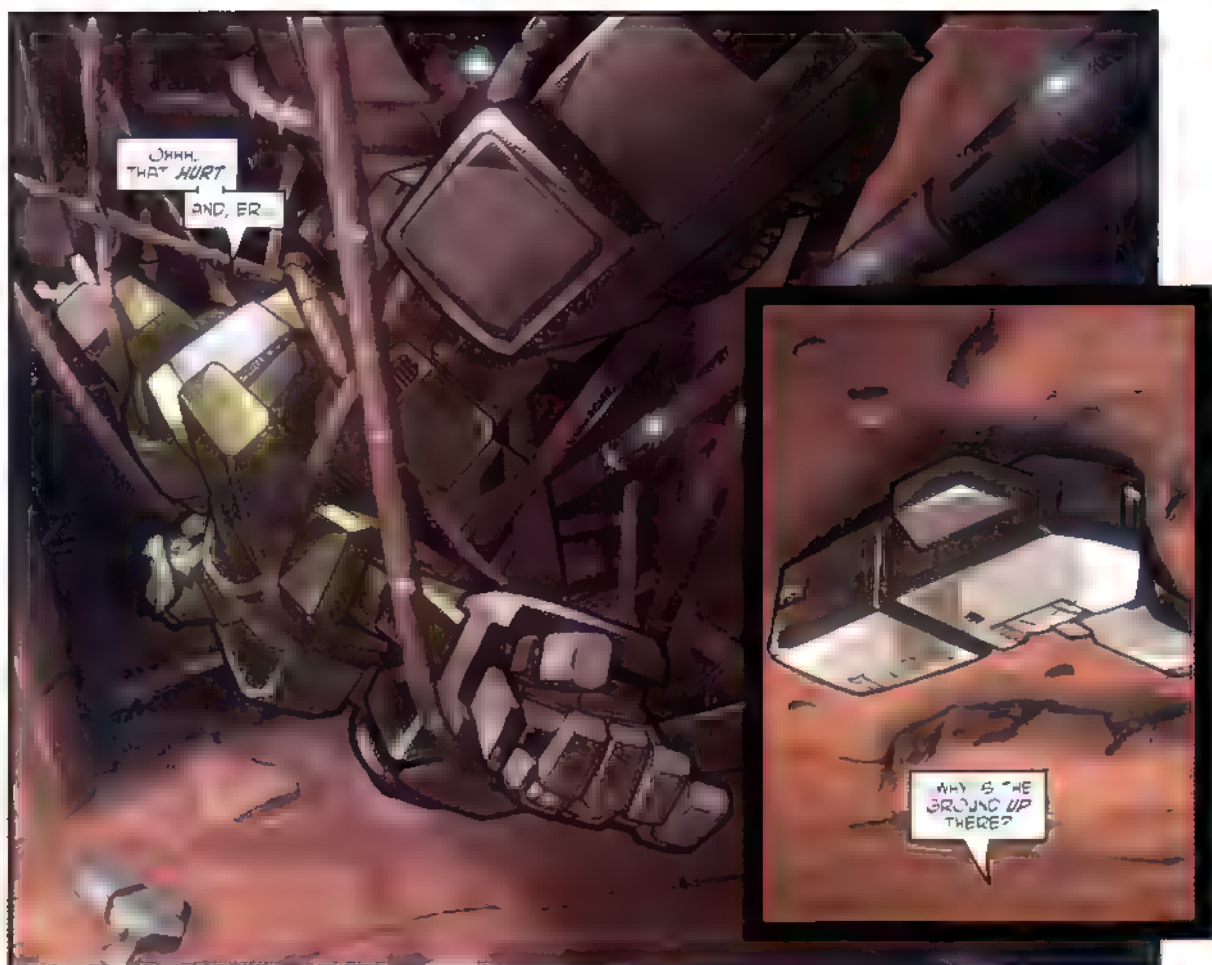
THAT'S  
PROGRESS  
FOR YOU!

GUYS


WHAT PART  
OF CLEAR THE  
AREA DID NOT  
COMPUTE?  
I TOLD-

AM, HEY WHO  
AM I KIDDING?  
WRECK AND  
RULE!








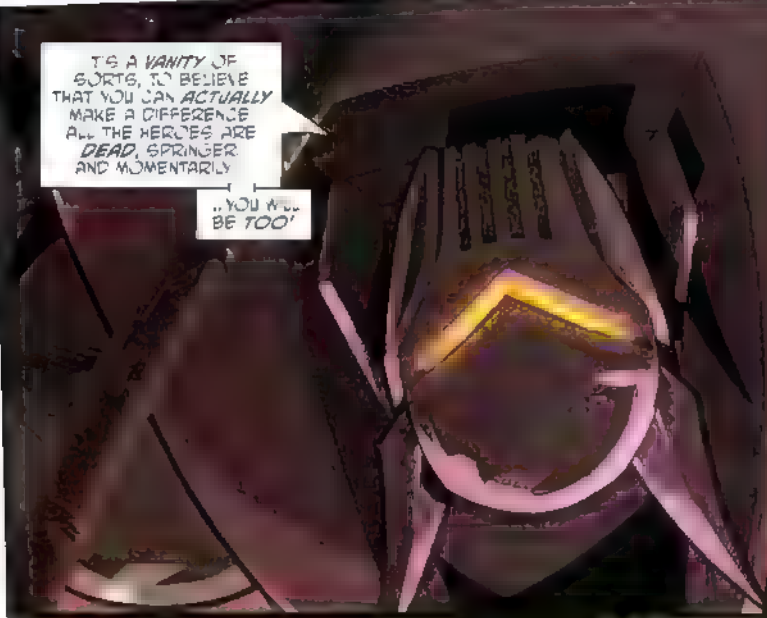


I HAVE YOU  
JUST WHERE  
I WANT YOU!

RATBAT!

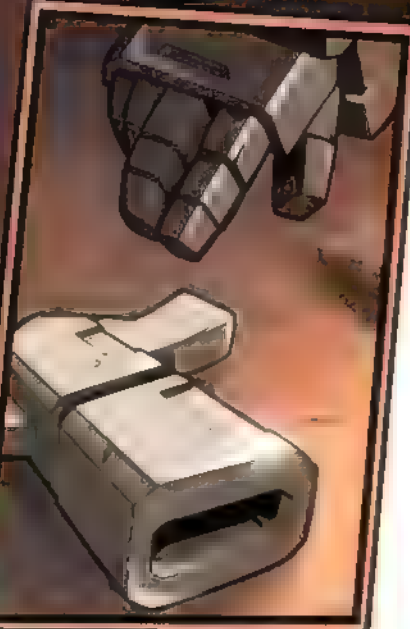


THIS PLANET  
IS RIFE FOR  
EXPLOITATION, AND  
YET YOU INSIST ON  
PLAYING THE ROLE  
OF PROTECTOR



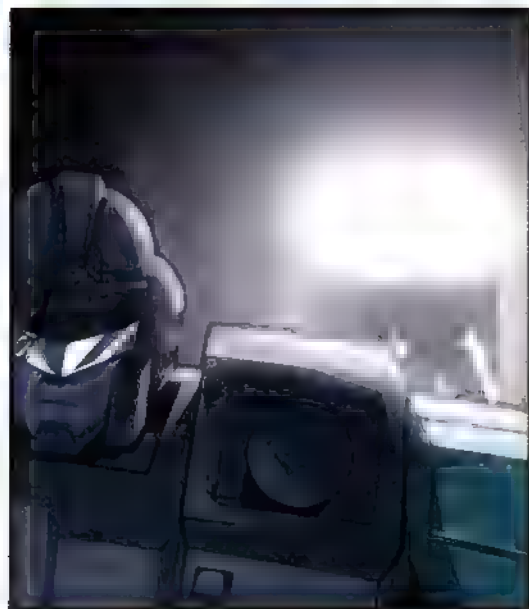
IT'S A VANITY OF  
SORTS, TO BELIEVE  
THAT YOU CAN ACTUALLY  
MAKE A DIFFERENCE  
ALL THE HEROES ARE  
DEAD, SPRINGER  
AND MOMENTARILY

.. YOU WILL  
BE TOO!





WITHIN



WELL?

WE'RE IN *BUSINESS*.  
THE *TARGET* AND HIS  
FELLOW SAPS WENT  
FOR IT LIKE DRONES  
TO A SMELTING POOL.

YOU?



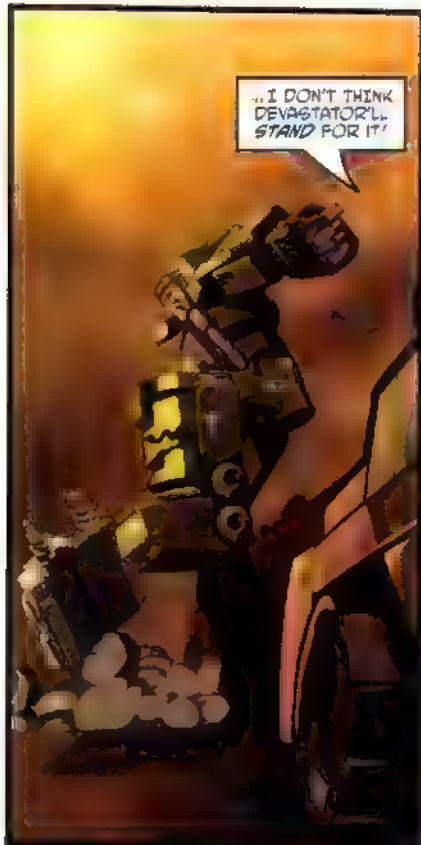
THE KEY TO GRIMLOCK  
IS HIS OWN DELIGHTFULLY  
*SKewed* SENSE OF RIGHT  
AND WRONG, CRIME AND  
PUNISHMENT PUSHED IN  
THE RIGHT DIRECTION...

HE WILL  
DELIVER  
HIMSELF


...AND BRING  
THE *THIRD* TARGET  
WITH HIM!












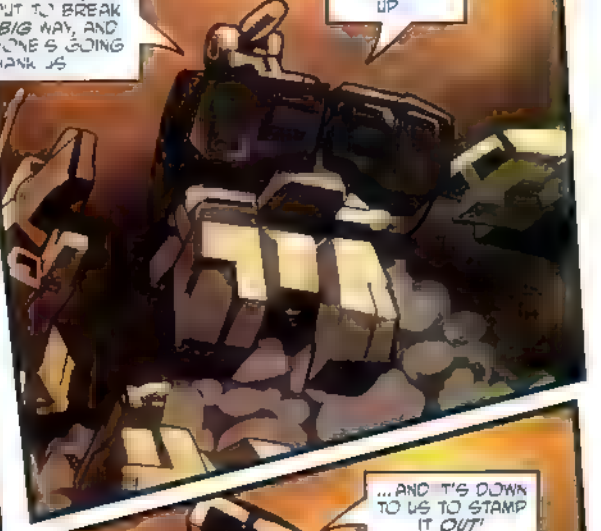
...PREPARE  
FOR COFUNCTIONAL  
INTERLOCK

YOU KNOW ME, HOTSHOT,  
ALWAYS READY TO SCRAPER  
MY KNUCKLES ON SOMEONE  
ELSE'S CHASSIS




BUT ARE YOU  
SURE THIS IS A  
GOOD IDEA?

IN A WORD, *BLADES*, NO  
WE'RE ABOUT TO BREAK  
COVER A BIG WAY, AND  
HARDLY ANYONE'S GOING  
TO THANK US



BUT THE  
HEAT'S BEEN  
TURNED WAY  
UP



...AND IT'S DOWN  
TO US TO STAMP  
IT OUT!

INTERLOCK  
COMPLETE..

WE  
ARE ONE!

"... JUST WHEN  
YOU THINK THINGS  
CAN'T GET ANY  
WORSE!"





AUTOBASE,  
CYBERTRON:

ESCALATION  
IN THE TAGAN  
HEIGHTS..

GENERAL  
ALERT ON THE  
KALIS FRONT...

WIDESPREAD  
FIGHTING AROUND  
UQAYA'S NORTHERN  
PERIMETER

SABOTAGE  
IN DEFENSE GRID  
FOUR-ALPHA..

WHERE IS  
EVERYONE?

I GO OUT  
ON A ROUTINE  
METALLURGICAL  
SURVEY AND COME  
BACK TO CHAOS

WILL SOMEONE  
PLEASE TELL ME

WHAT EXACTLY  
IS GOING ON?



TO BE CONTINUED



# FROM THE DESK OF... PAT LEE

## YOUR DW CHECKLIST NOVEMBER

October 2003

It's been a blast working on Transformers War and Peace. There were many nights of not getting much sleep but it was worth the efforts just to get that last Ultra Magnus smoking barrel shot in the last issue thanks to the Mickster. It was also exciting to work with Brad Mick on the project as well and really excited to see what Don and Brad are going to do with the ongoing series. Although, it's not the last you'll see of me on Transformers. There is still a whole lot coming down the pipeline for me for the Transformers series.

For the time being, I will be back to drawing human figures again. I will be penciling 4 issues of Devil May Cry and am really pumped about working on the project. It also gives me an opportunity to try a different medium and to see an entire book fully painted.

So what other interesting projects are in the works? Lets just say that one of them entails a character with two pointy ears and a mission to cleanse the big "G". Thanks for supporting the wave and I hope to see you at the conventions!

Back to the artboard!

Pat Lee  
President, Dreamwave Productions



### SPOTLIGHT

#### DUEL MASTERS #1



Each cover for Duel Masters #1 comes polybagged with 1 of 5 different cards for the upcoming Duel Masters trading card game from Wizards of the Coast. Collect all five!

by Bryan Augustyn  
& Jeremy Tjongson



### SPOTLIGHT

#### DREW STRUZAN: DEUVRE

Drew Struzan's art has touched the lives of generations of filmgoers with unforgettable images for *The Star Wars Trilogy*, *Back to the Future*, *Indiana Jones*, *Phantom Menace*, *Harry Potter*, and hundreds more.

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#### MEGA MAN #3

#### TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES VOL.1 TPB

#### TEENAGE MUTANT NINJA TURTLES #6

#### TRANSFORMERS ARMADA #17

#### TRANSFORMERS #8 MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE

#### TRANSFORMERS #4 /G.I. JOE

#### TRANSFORMERS: WAR WITHIN THE DARK AGES #2

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# DECLARATIONS OF WAR

Hey there Transfans!

Welcome to the "real" first letters page of War Within "The Dark Ages" as we obviously had no questions to answer last issue. I'm sure you were left with countless questions after the first issue though so let's get started:

Dear Dreamwave,

I just finished issues 6 of G1 Vol 2 and 1 of War Within Vol 2 and they left me with some questions.

1. Shockwave describes the difference between the Autobots and the Decepticons as being "genetic", yet in the War Within it's made to seem as though things were more political - like they all had a choice. The Decepticons are said to be a "rogue faction" that previously was unknown to the mainstream of Cybertron's societies, and in WW Vol 2 Furman has decided to use the Political splintering angle even more. Will this get cleared up? And since Grimlock was originally one of the Decepticons, does this mean that "genetically" he still is one?

2. And then there's Ultra Magnus. I completely dug how Brad used his actual action figure design as part of the story and related him to Optimus Prime. What I'm wondering is if Brad will give us a more detailed description on what exactly makes certain Transformers "brothers" ie: Sunstreaker and Sideswipe - I'm talking construction-origins of these robots. Also, since Prime and Magnus are brothers where is Magnus in the War Within series? I would fully expect to see him looking like War Within Prime only all white and a tad shorter since Prime has the Matrix inside him.

3. What were Swoop, Slag, Sludge, and Snarl doing before War Within Vol. 2?

4. Will we ever see the Quintessons and if so, will they be minions of Unicron or cyborganic creations of Primus made to build the Transformers?

Anyway I love that what you're doing so far, with only a few minor quibbles, so keep it up, but PLEASE MAINTAIN CONTINUITY AT ALL COSTS. Oh, and Don Figueroa is BADASS.

Thanks for everything,  
Jeremy C. Flowers

1. The Transformers race only recently learned of their 'genetic' differences. Shockwave learned of the TF factions' unique purposes through ancient texts that only he has been privy to. During the War Within era Shockwave had yet to uncover this truth...but is it the WHOLE truth? We shall see...(insert mysterious music here!)

2. Check out Transformers: More Than Meets The Eye #8 for more info on 'related' Transformers. Magnus was out of the picture during the War Within series due to injury (the cause of which is yet to be revealed...). His reparations led the addition of his armor, and to him becoming 'Ultra Magnus'.

3. Well, we couldn't fit EVERY one into War Within Vol. 1 (although Simon Furman & Don Figueroa certainly tried!). Just be thankful the rough & tough Dinobots are getting some deserved spotlight time in War Within "The Dark Ages".

4. Those mysterious Quintessons are definitely lurking around somewhere! In More Than Meets The Eye #8 you'll get your first look at Dreamwave's version of the 'Quints'. You may even learn some tidbits as to the Quint role in DW's TF Universe.

Dear Dreamwave,

Thanks for bringing back TF!! Really excited and looking forward to the new monthly ongoing. Is there a release for the TFG1 Vol.2 trade paperback? War Within was AWESOME.

Jason

Look for the Transformers G1 Vol.2 trade to hit comics stores in February 2004. The trade will be packed with cover art, easter eggs, and more so you can be sure you'll be getting some bang for your buck.

Dear Dreamwave,

I've recently tried to order the Transformers: War Within trade paperback from several different stores and they all tell me that it is out of stock and out of print. Is Dreamwave going to do a second printing of this book?

Travis Ellisor

The War Within Trade Paperback was very popular and we did sell out of our print run rather quickly. If the demand is strong enough we'll definitely go to a second print but if you can't wait that long check out the Dreamwave/Dynamic Forces online store found on our website. There's a super spiffy Hard Cover Edition available for pre-order right now!

Well, that's all the room we've got but keep those "Declarations of War" comin'. This is one of the few times that a declaration of war can be a good thing!

*Matt!*

Matt Moylan  
Director of Post-Production  
Dreamwave Productions

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\*LETTERS MAY BE EDITED FOR  
LENGTH AND SPELLING.



# DUEL MASTERS

## ANNOUNCEMENT



**DUELMASTERS #2**  
**HOLD THE MAGIC!**  
**FEEL THE POWER!**  
**JOIN THE**  
**DUEL!**  
**THIS DECEMBER!**

story by  
**BRIAN AUGUSTYN**  
art by  
**JEREMY TIONGSON**  
[www.dreamwaveprod.com](http://www.dreamwaveprod.com)

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# THE TRANSFORMERS GENERATION ONE

MORE THAN MEETS THE EYE!

# ISSUE ZERO



PAT LEE AND DON FIGUEROA

## JOIN FORCES

### THE ONGOING SERIES STARTS HERE!

BRAD MICK PAT LEE DON FIGUEROA



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